Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* What happened was the attested card was altered. The number of units was altered from 2 to 9 and the excess units of rice were actually obtained. The matter is being enquired into.

KOLE LANDS—FAILURE OF HARVEST DURING LAST YEAR

224. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Will Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether they have come to know that some of the Kole lands were not harvested last year on account of early rains and that many of the cultivators could not store seeds for this year;

(*b*) was this fact brought to the notice of the Government as early as Edavam last;

(*c*) if so, what arrangements have been made by Government for the supply of seeds to the cultivators;

(*d*) have they collected statistics as to the quantity which may be required this year;

(*e*) if so, what are they and the quantity they have collected or supplied to the cultivators so far?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) By procuring, storing and distributing seeds. Instructions have been issued to the Grain Purchasing Officers to purchase seeds and supply the same to the cultivators.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) A quantity of about 30,000 paras of seeds was estimated for being preserved for distribution among the cultivators. About 20,000 paras of seeds have already been procured and major portion distributed on the recommendation of the Kole Committee President. For the balance quantity which the President has estimated at 10,000 paras, necessary steps have been taken to procure the same from Travancore.

ASSISTANT LECTURER IN THE LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT—DELAY IN APPOINTING THE SUBSTITUTE

225. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the date of the application for leave of Mr. Raghava Warrier, Assistant Lecturer in the Languages Department, Maharaja's College, which necessitated the appointment of Mr. N. M. Venkateswara Mallaya notified in paragraph (1) of Notification No. 130 in Part I of the Gazette, dated 18th Vrischigam 1119;

(*b*) the date of sanctioning of leave;

(*c*) the date of entering on leave;

(*d*) the date of reporting about this leave;

(*i*) by the Principal;

(*ii*) by the Director of Public Instruction;

(*e*) the date of notification in the Gazette;

(*f*) the last day to receive applications for the appointment;

(*g*) the date on which Mr. Mallaya joined duty;

(*h*) whether Mr. Raghava Warrier has re-joined duty;

(*i*) if so, the date?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):*

(*a*) 22nd October 1943.

(*b*) 23rd November 1943.

(*c*) 21st October 1943.

(*d*) (*i*) 25th October 1943.

(*ii*) 31st October 1943.

(*e*) 12th November 1943.

(*f*) 22nd November 1943.

(*g*) On the after-noon of 3rd December 1943.

(*h*) Yes.

(*i*) 16th December 1943.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* So, Raghava Warrier entered on leave on 23rd November and the substitute was appointed and he joined duty only on 3rd December and Raghava Warrier returned to join duty again on the 16th December. That means about 13 days' service. So, all this while the students were not having proper classes.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It some times happens that when leave is applied for a very large number of preliminary documents have to be obtained. When

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a man applies for sick leave and if he does not produce the medical certificate, that will have to be called for. Such preliminaries naturally take time and it so happened that there was some delay in getting these preliminaries done and putting the necessary notification in the Gazette in making the appointment.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Even with all that after entering on leave there has been unnecessary delay for about 6 days or 10 days and so it is both in the office of the Director of Public Instruction and the Huzur Secretariat. Can all this unnecessary delay be avoided?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is a matter of opinion that the delays are unnecessary. I can assure the Hon'ble Member in the first place that no delay which is avoidable has occurred. In the second place even while this appointment was pending, work was not at a standstill. There are other members of the staff who have some leisure which they can utilise for taking these boys; so that the inference that these boys were doing nothing while the appointment was in the process of intimation, was wrong.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether an officer can enter on leave before the leave is ssnctioned.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* What actually happened was this. This was sick leave and he entered upon leave in anticipation of sanction. In cases where the application is not supported by proper valid medical certificate, of course, it will be refused. But here, they had satisfactorily proved that the grant of leave was necessary and the man had no option in the matter.

QUARTERS FOR THE SISTERS WORKING IN THE MAHARAJA'S HOSPITAL

226. **Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state whether any quarters for the Sisters working in the Maharaja's Hospital, Mattancheri, have been built as contemplated?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* No.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether the building of quarters for the Sisters of the Maharaja's Hospital, Mattancheri, was not agreed to?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* They have quarters now.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether that was not agreed to?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I do not think there was any definite agreement. Government would consider the question of puting up suitable quarters for sisters.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Have the Government seen the visitors' book regarding the quarters?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* They have read them. It is conceded that quarters are needed. Early steps would be taken to see what could be done in the matter.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are the Government aware that the quarters that they have is dingy?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Most of the houses in Mattancheri are like that.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* But this is worse. It is very inadequate particularly for European people to be scorched in the sun. You agree.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Agreed.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will the Chief Medical Officer be pleased to take a little more steps to see that quarters are built as early as possible?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* That will be looked into.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I take it that the Chief Medical Officer is satisfied that these sisters can tolerably manage to be where they are at least during the war time?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I am afraid that the quarters are not at all adequate for them, and early steps will be taken to accommodate them in proper buildings.

BUS FARES—EXHORBITANT RATES OF

227. **Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether there had been complaints from bus passengers against exhorbitant collection of bus fares, in defiance of Notification No. 2 (Judicial Department), dated 19th August 1943, published in Part I, of the Gazette dated 5th Chingam 1119;

(*b*) if so, the names and addresses of the petitioners and the names of bus services against whom such complaints have been made;

(*c*) whether any action was taken against such bus owners;

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